
Eugenia myrciariifolia (Myrtaceae), a New Species from Paraná, Brazil

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ABSTRACT. *Eugenia myrciariifolia*, a new species from the southern Brazilian state of Paraná, is described and illustrated. This species is related to *Eugenia oeidocarpa*, from which it is set apart by the presence of cataphylls on the twigs, elliptic to lanceolate leaves, smaller or absent pedicels, and axillary, pilose flowers.

RESUMO. *Eugenia myrciariifolia*, uma nova espécie do estado do Paraná, Brasil, é descrita e ilustrada. A nova espécie é próxima a *Eugenia oeidocarpa*, da qual se distingue pela presença de catáfilos nos ramos, folhas elípticas a lanceoladas, pedicelos menores ou ausentes e flores axilares e pilosas.

Key words: Brazil, *Eugenia*, Myrtaceae.

Eugenia L. is one of the largest genera of the Myrtaceae, with about 350 American species (Lan-drum & Kawasaki, 1997). The Brazilian species have remained largely unstudied since the paramount treatment of Berg (1857–1859), except for local floristic studies (e.g., Kiaerskou, 1893; Legrand & Klein, 1969; Kawasaki, 1989; Mattos, 1984; Barroso & Peron, 1994; Marchiori & Sobral, 1997; Sobral, 2003). While studying the family Myrtaceae in the state of Paraná, a small-leaved tree of the forests from the northern part of the state came to our attention and is here proposed as new.

Eugenia myrciariifolia Soares-Silva & Sobral, sp. nov. TYPE: Brazil. Paraná: Sapopema, Salto das Orquídeas, margem direita do rio Lageado, 8 Dec. 1995, L. Soares-Silva 563 (holotype, UB; isotype, FUEL). Figure 1.

Species *E. oeidocarpace* proxima, a qua ramulis cata-phyllorum instructa, foliis ellipticis vel lanceolatis (non obovatis), pedicellis usque 2 mm longis (non 2–5 mm longis) et floribus axillaribus ovarii pubescentibus recedit.

Small tree up to 5 m high; twigs red-brown or grayish, exfoliating, the younger ones somewhat angled, brown and puberulent with white trichomes 0.1–0.3 mm long, bearing at their bases spatulate to linear cataphylls 2.5–5.5 × 1 mm, these involute, with cilia to 0.1 mm. Leaves chartaceous, with scattered translucent punctations visible to the eye, these more evident abaxially, reticulate, slightly discolored, glabrous except for occasional scattered white trichomes to 0.1 mm long along the adaxial central nerve and 0.1–0.3 mm long at the base of leaves; blades elliptic to elliptic-lanceolate, 1–3 × 0.5–2 cm, the length/width ratio 2.2–2.8:1; apex obtuse to acute; base acute to attenuate; central nerve plane to slightly prominent adaxially and evidently raised abaxially; secondary nerves 6 to 10 pairs, evident on both faces and diverging at angles of 50°–75°; marginal vein 0.6–0.8 mm from margin, the margin itself with a yellowish ridge to 0.1 mm wide; petioles plane adaxially, 1–3 × 0.4–0.6 mm, with trichomes like those on the branches. Flowers axillary and solitary; pedicels 1–2 × 0.2–0.5 mm or absent; bracteoles persisting after anthesis, ovate to rounded ovate, 0.5–1 × 0.7–1.2 mm, ciliate; flower buds globose, 3–4 mm diam.; calyx lobes hemispherical, unequal in size, the external ones 1–1.3 × 1.5–2 mm, the internal ones 1.6–2 × 2–2.5 mm, sparsely puberulent without and sericeous within, with trichomes about 0.1 mm, the margins sometimes with red cilia to 0.4 mm; petals orbicular and concave, 2.5–3 mm diam., glabrous and ciliate; staminal ring sericeous, 1.5 mm diam.; stamens ca. 100, 4–5 mm, the anthers globose, 0.4–0.5 mm, with one apical gland; style glabrous, 4–6 mm; ovary externally pubescent or sericeous, about 1 mm long, bilocular, with 7 to 8 ovules per locule on a central placenta. Fruits not seen.

Habitat and distribution. *Eugenia myrciariifolia* is a small tree from seasonal forests of central

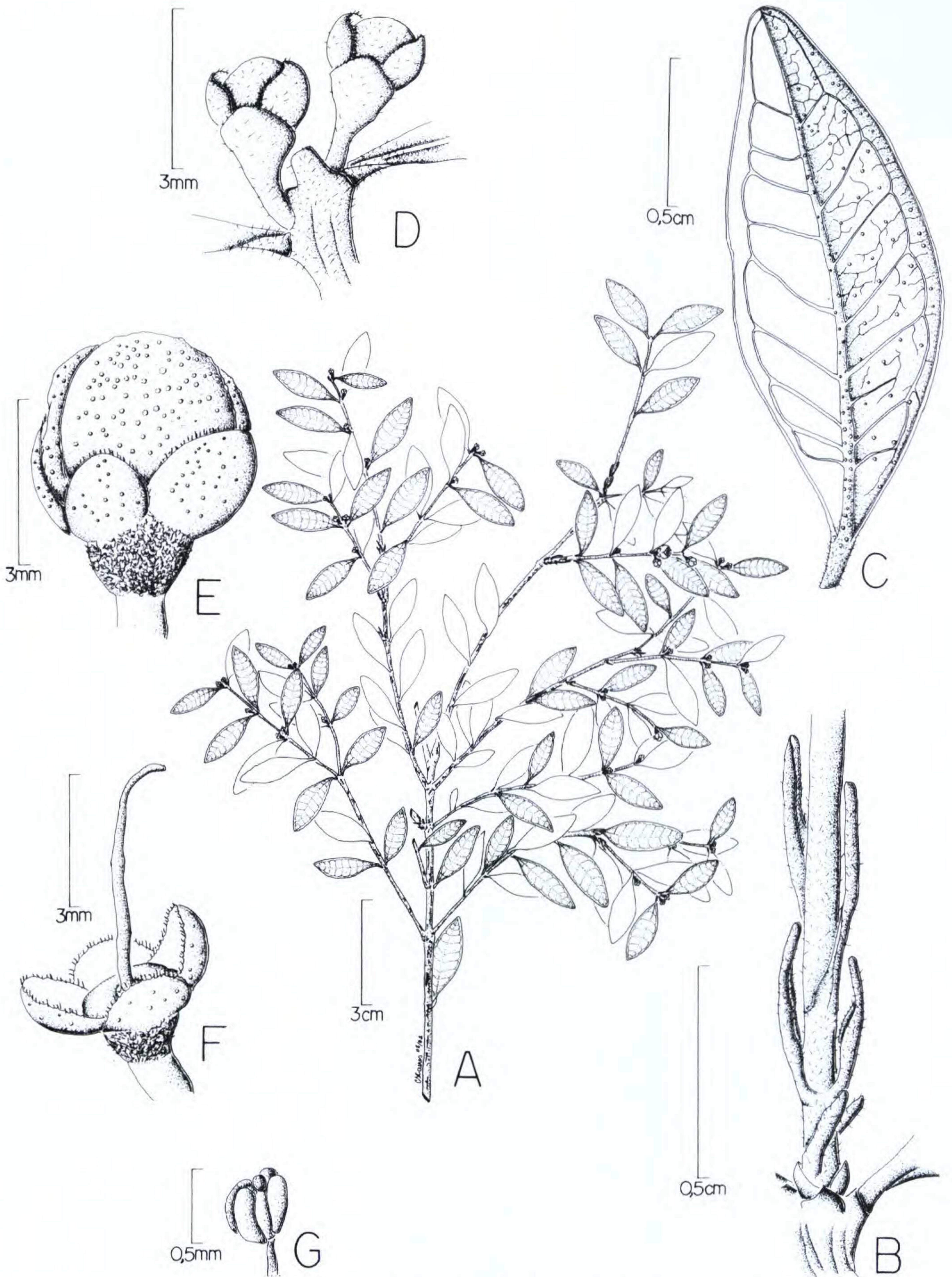


Figure 1. *Eugenia myrciariifolia* Soares-Silva & Sobral. —A. Habit. —B. Cataphylls at base of twigs. —C. Detail of adaxial side of leaf. —D. Detail of inflorescence. —E. Flower bud, with bracteoles detached. —F. Flower after pollination, with bracteoles detached. —G. Stamen with apical gland. From Soares-Silva 570.

and western Paraná; until now it has been collected in only four municipalities.

Phenology. Blooming specimens were collected from October to December; fruiting specimens are still unknown.

Etymology. The specific epithet is allusive to the resemblance of this species with some of the genus *Myrciaria*, especially *Myrciaria tenella* (DC.) O. Berg, with which it can be easily confused when sterile due to its small leaves and dense foliation; curiously, one of the vernacular names that we have registered for this species, cambuí, is also largely applied in southern Brazil for species of *Myrciaria*.

Vernacular names. Cambuí, pitangão (from *Lindeman & Haas 2892*).

Affinities. This species is related to *Eugenia oeidocarpa* O. Berg, another southern Brazilian species growing from Paraná to Rio Grande do Sul (Sobral, 2003). The following key presents the characters that set them apart.

KEY FOR DISTINGUISHING *EUGENIA MYRCIARIIFOLIA* AND *EUGENIA OEIDOCARPA* IN SOUTHERN BRAZIL

- 1a. Twigs without linear cataphylls at base; leaves obovate with revolute margins; petioles to 4×0.8 mm; the inflorescences ramiflorous, 2- to 6-florous, the axis to 2×0.5 mm; pedicels to 5×0.5 mm; flowers glabrous; larger calyx lobes to 3×3 mm *Eugenia oeidocarpa*
- 1b. Twigs with linear cataphylls at base; leaves elliptic-lanceolate; petioles to 2×0.6 mm; pedicels to 2×0.5 mm; flowers pilose, solitary and axillary; larger calyx lobes to 2×2 mm *Eugenia myrciariifolia*

Additionally, this species shows close resemblance to the protologue of *Eugenia coetanea* O. Berg (Berg, 1857–1859), another ramiflorous species distinguished from *E. myrciariifolia* and *E. oeidocarpa* by pilose young leaves, linear bracteoles to 4 mm, and flower buds to 8 mm; nevertheless, comparison with this species is problematic since the type was destroyed at B and no isotypes are known. Moreover, although said to be collected in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, no further collec-

tions of *E. coetanea* are known, notwithstanding extensive surveys in the myrtaceous flora of this state (Mattos, 1984; Marchiori & Sobral, 1997; Sobral, 2003).

Paratypes. BRAZIL. **Paraná:** Aranha, *Lindeman & Haas 3432* (MBM, U); Campo Novo, ca. 50 km de Laranjeiras do Sul, *Lindeman & Haas 2892* (MBM, U, UB); Parque Nacional do Iguaçu [municipality of Céu Azul, not registered in label], 100 m W of rio Floriano, *Lindeman & Haas 3544* (MBM, U); Sapopema, Salto das Orquídeas, margem direita do rio Lageado, *Soares-Silva 441* (FUEL, UB), 9 Dec. 1995, *Soares-Silva 570* (FUEL, UB), *Chagas e Silva & Soares-Silva 2056* (FUEL, UB), *Silva 2127* (FUEL, UB), *Medri 744* (BHCB, FUEL), *Pavão et al. s.n.* (FUEL 27498, MO).

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